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(54) **Cosmetic compositions**

(57) A cosmetic composition comprising an emulsion of egg white material, citrus fruit extract and an oil. Preferably the composition comprises 25–55% egg white material, 5–25% citrus fruit extract and 15–45% of the oil, which is preferably a vegetable oil. The composition, which is in the form of a cream, is for cosmetic application to the epidermis.

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A COSMETIC COMPOSITION

DESCRIPTION

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The present invention relates to a cosmetic composition. In particular, the present invention relates to a cosmetic composition, for application to the skin, with the object of causing the latter to adopt a smoother appearance.

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Throughout the ages, numerous preparations and compositons, for lessening the visual impact of wrinkles in the adult human skin, have been proposed and formulated. One class of such cosmetics are formulated merely to cover, or fill any wrinkles present in the skin, without actually affecting the underlying contours of the skin. Other preparations are intended to smooth out the contours of the skin on application thereto.

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Preparations of this latter type often comprise a water and oil emulsion. When applied to the skin, water from the emulsion will enter the outer layer of the epidermis, softening the same and thereby render the skin's appearance less wrinkled. The oil forms a barrier preventing the water from evaporating into the atmosphere, as otherwise would be expected. Preparations of this type are commonly known as moisturising lotions or creams.

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In practice, however, after a moisturiser has been applied to the skin, the boosted moisture content of the epidermis begins to drop relatively rapidly. Accordingly, a previously wrinkled skin will re-adopt its original appearance, shortly after the application of a moisturiser.

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An object of the present invention is to provide a composition which, on application to the skin, will smooth out the contours thereof for an extended period of time.

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Accordingly, in a first aspect, the present invention provides a cosmetic composition comprising an emulsion of egg white material, citrus fruit extract and, an oil. Preferably, the composition comprises 25-55% egg  
5 white material, 5-25% citrus fruit extract and 15-45% of the oil. The egg white material can be derived directly from fresh or unprocessed eggs. Suitable citrus fruit extracts include lemon, orange, tangerine and similar fruit juice and the preferred extract is  
10 lemon juice. The oil is preferably derived from an animal or vegetable source.

In an embodiment, the composition further comprises 5 - 15% of a emulsifying agent, preferably up to 7% of a  
15 preservative compound and 5 - 15% of a distilled spirit comprising a solution of ethyl alcohol and water.

Preferably, the composition comprises 30 - 50% egg white material, 5 - 15% citrus fruit extract, up to 5%  
20 saturated sugar solution, 20 - 40% vegetable oil, 5 - 15% spirit and up to 7% preservatives. Preferably, the vegetable oil is olive oil, the sugar solution is in the form of honey and the preservatives comprise potassium sorbate and boric acid. Other suitable oils

include corn oil, sunflower oil and nut oils;  
alternative sugar solutions include molasses, refined  
molasses and refined sugar syrup. The preferred spirit  
is zivania. However other common spirits such as grape  
5 brandy and grain spirits can be used. The composition  
may further comprise up to 1% of lemon essence,  
tincture of myrrh, tincture of benzoin, or rosemary  
essential oil.

10 In a second aspect, the invention provides a method of  
manufacturing a cosmetic compound in accordance with  
the first aspect of the present invention, which method  
comprises a first step of admixing egg white material,  
citrus fruit extract and oil, in a vessel open to the  
15 atmosphere, to form a homogeneous foam and, a second  
step of heating the homogeneous foam, to form an  
emulsified product. Preferably, an emulsifying agent  
is admixed with the product of the first step, during  
the second step.

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In an embodiment of the second aspect of the present  
invention, a saturated sugar solution is added in the  
first step and, in a third step, the spirit,  
preservative compound, together with any other

ingredients are blended into the cooled emulsified product of the second step.

5 Compositions in accordance with the present invention may be used as esolving, or exfoliating creams for removing dead, or rough skin from the epidermis, or other external area of the body and may be used for this purpose on a regular basis; typically being applied to the skin once per calender month.

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The following examples are given as illustrations of embodiments of both aspects of the present invention.

15 Example 1

A cosmetic composition was prepared from the formulation given in table 1

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Table 1

<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Quantity/ml</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
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- 6 -

	Fresh egg whites (3)	107ml	37
	Juice of one Lemon	28ml	9.7
5	Honey	5ml	1.7
	Olive oil	85ml	29.4
	Emulsifying wax	28ml	9.7
10	Boric acid	1.25ml	0.43
	zivanja	28ml	9.7
15	Potassium sorbate	5ml	1.7
	Lemon essence (3 drops)	0.5ml	0.17
	Tincture myrrh (3 drops)	0.5ml	0.17
20	Tincture of benzoin(3 drops)	0.5ml	0.17

Rosemary oil	(1 drop)	0.2ml	0.07
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5 The egg whites were placed in an open topped mixing vessel and whipped into a stiff foam. The lemon juice, honey, olive oil and boric acid were then added thereto and resulting mixture was whipped into a homogeneous stiff foam.

10 The emulsifying wax was heated until liquid and the stiff foam comprised of egg whites, lemon juice, honey, olive oil and, boric acid was added thereto. The resulting mixture was heated and stirred until it was in the form of a thick creamy emulsion. Typically, this  
15 takes a period of about 5 minutes heating, whereafter the heat is withdrawn and the product allowed to cool to room temperature. During the cooling period, the product was continuously stirred.

20 The zivania, potassium sorbate, lemon essence, tincture of myrrh, tincture of benzoin and tincture of rosemary were then blended into the cooled emulsion, to give the final product.



Examples 2-4

Cosmetic preparations were prepared using the method of example 1. In example 2 90ml (31.1%) of egg white material, 35ml (12.1%) of lemon juice, 7ml (2.4%) of honey and 35ml (12.5%) of emulsifying wax were used. In example 3 130ml (45%) of egg white material, 20ml (6.9%) of lemon juice, 10ml (3.5%) of honey, 65ml (22.5%) of olive oil, 18ml (6.2%) of emulsifying wax and 18ml (6.2%) of Grape Brandy were used. In example 4 95ml (32.9%) of egg white material, 110ml (38%) of olive oil, 21ml (7.2%) of lemon juice, 25ml (8.5%) of emulsifying wax and, 25ml (8.5%) of Scotch Whiskey were used. In all of examples 2-4, the remaining constituents were present in the same quantity as they were in Example 1 (see table I).

Tests have shown that, after treatment with the final product, previously rough skin remains smooth for extended periods of time. The cosmetic composition of the present invention should not produce any adverse reactions in use, because it consists almost entirely of harmless natural products which have been used for centuries without ill effect.

CLAIMS

1. A cosmetic composition comprising an emulsion of egg white material, citrus fruit extract and an oil.
- 5 2. A cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 1, comprising 25-55% egg white material, 5-25% citrus fruit extract and 15-45% oil.
- 10 3. A cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the egg white material is derived directly from fresh eggs, the citrus fruit extract is lemon juice and the oil is derived from an animal or vegetable source.
- 15 4. A cosmetic composition as claimed in either claim 2 or claim 3, further comprising between 5 and 15% of a emulsifying agent.
- 20 5. A cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 4, further comprising up to 5% of a preservative compound.

6. A cosmetic composition as claimed in any of claims 2-5, wherein the composition further includes between 5 and 15% of a distilled spirit comprising a solution of ethyl alcohol and water.

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7. A cosmetic composition as claimed in any of claims 2-6, wherein the composition comprises 30 - 50% egg white material, 5-15% citrus fruit extract, up to 5% saturated sugar solution, 20-40% vegetable oil, 10 5-15% emulsifying wax, 5-15% distilled spirit, up to 7% of a preservative and, up to 1% of a further ingredient.

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8. A cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 7 wherein the oil is olive oil, the distilled spirit is zivania, the sugar solution is honey and the preservative compound is either up to 2% boric acid or up to 5% potassium sorbate.

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9. A cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 7, wherein the further ingredient is any of lemon essence, tincture of myrrh, tincture of benzoin or rosemary essential oil.

10. A cosmetic composition as claimed in any of the preceding claims wherein the egg white material has been denatured by heating.

5 11. A method of manufacturing a cosmetic composition as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein said method comprises a first step of combining egg white material, citrus fruit extract and an oil in air so as to form a homogeneous foam and, a second step, in which  
10 said homogeneous foam is heated to form an emulsified product.

12. A method as claimed in claim 11 wherein in the second step, an emulsifying agent is admixed with the  
15 product of the first step.

13. A method as claimed in claim 12 wherein the first step further includes the addition of a concentrated sugar solution and, in a third step, a spirit comprising  
20 a solution of ethyl alcohol and water and, a preservative are blended into the cooled emulsified product of step two.

14. A cosmetic composition substantially as  
hereinbefore described in the example.

15. A method of manufacturing a cosmetic composition  
5 substantially as herein described in the example.